

**STATE OF NEW YORK**  
**LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY**  
**BUFFALO, NY, OCTOBER 23, 2021**

***In Remembrance of Ruth A. Heard***

EC LEG OCT 25 '21 PM12:27

**WHEREAS**, Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, on October 13, 2021, removed from our midst **Ruth A. Heard** in whose death we have lost a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, valued and respected citizen, and whose family has lost a leader, kind and devoted member; and

**WHEREAS**, Ruth Annette "Anderson-Usher" Heard was born on March 15, 1948, to the proud parents of the late John Doyle of Kansas City, Missouri and Nellie Kate Anderson of Decatur, Georgia; and

**WHEREAS**, Ruth attended Buffalo Public Schools and was a 1966 graduate of Lafayette High School where her ambitious and pulsating leadership helped initiate the school's first drill team; and

**WHEREAS**, during the early 1960s, Ruth was a good friend of The Golden family and in 1963, she was introduced to the handsome Tyrone Heard, who became the love of her life; and

**WHEREAS**, while Tyrone was home on leave from the United States Marine Corps. they entered into holy matrimony on January 1, 1965, and remained devotedly wed for 57 loving years until Ruth was called home; and

**WHEREAS**, from this union Tyrone and Ruth were blessed with five children: Theresa, Tyrone Jr., Richard, Ronnette, and Terrance; and

**WHEREAS**, Ruth went on to complete Canisius College's nursing program graduating as a Licensed Practical Nurse in 1979; and

**WHEREAS**, Ruth practiced nursing at several facilities including Buffalo General Hospital, Mary Agnes Manor Nursing Home, Geneva B. Scruggs Clinic, The Bristol Home, and later practiced as a private duty nurse; and

**WHEREAS**, Ruth retired after several decades of doing what she loved, caring for people with excellence and genuine affection for her clients; and

**WHEREAS**, Mother Heard accepted The Lord at an early age as a member of the Catholic Church where she taught her family the love of Christ Jesus, the power of prayer, and Christian values; and

**WHEREAS**, later in her journey, she went on to be a dedicated member at MacAlpine Presbyterian Church with her husband for over twenty-one years; and

**WHEREAS**, Ruth love life and enjoyed many activities such as touring the country on Pro Bowlers Association tours in which she earned numerous trophies and monetary awards; and

**WHEREAS**, she also enjoyed dancing, singing, loved family gatherings, celebrating holidays, birthdays and enjoyed watching her hometown football team, the Buffalo Bills; and

**WHEREAS**, Ruth had an unbelievable passion for fashion dressing with a wardrobe built for a queen; and

**WHEREAS**, she also had an empathy and sincere kindness for other people and made it her mission to see that all individuals were treated fairly; and

**WHEREAS**, Ruth was preceded in death by her father, John Doyle of Kansas City, Missouri, her mother, Nellie Kate Anderson of Decatur, Georgia, her son, Richard Maurice Heard, father-in-law, Alfred William (Bill) Golden, mother-in-law, Elizabeth (Bay Ray) Scott; and

**WHEREAS**, her life and legacy will continue to live on through her surviving loved ones including her loving husband, Tyrone Heard; two sons, Tyrone (Ronnie) Heard, Jr. and Terrance Heard; two daughters, Theresa Heard, and Ronnette Donaldson; grandchildren, Ronika, Aaron, Gabriel, Daniel, Blair, Amani, Erika, Brittney, Jaliyah, Brianna, and Richard; sixteen great grandchildren; siblings, Cecelia Folmar, Yvonne Anderson, John Anderson, and Simmone Anderson, and a host of in-laws, cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor and pay tribute to the life of *Ruth A. Heard* whose lifelong dedication to God, family, nursing and community are an inspiration to be admired, emulated and honored.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Erie County Legislature does hereby mourn the passing *Ruth A. Heard* and pause in its deliberations to recognize her praiseworthy life, her love for the Lord, her family and for her commitment and devotion to the betterment of our community; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Erie County Legislature express its sympathy and condolences to the Heard family and to her many friends, knowing full well that she has received her eternal and glorified reward in Heaven, having heard the consoling words of the Master, "*Well done, thou good and faithful servant.*"

---

**Hon. Howard J. Johnson Jr.**  
*Erie County Legislator, 1<sup>st</sup> District*

---

**Hon. April N.M Baskin**  
*Erie County Legislator, 2<sup>nd</sup> District*